

Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of applying a self-assembled monolayer of a molecular species to a surface of an article, comprising:

- providing on at least a portion of a stamping surface of a stamp a self-assembled monolayer-forming molecular species having a first functional group selected to attach to said surface, and a second functional group that is exposed when the species form a monolayer, said second group being polar,
- transferring the molecular species from the stamping surface to a first portion of the article surface, and
- allowing the molecular species to spread evenly from the first portion of the article surface to a second portion of the article surface, characterized in that the spreading is accomplished without immersion in a liquid with the stamp and the article is placed in reduced pressure atmosphere~~a vacuum or in a gaseous atmosphere~~.

2. (Currently Amended) A method of applying self-assembled monolayers of two molecular species to a surface of an article, comprising:

- providing on at least a portion of a stamping surface of a stamp a first self-assembled monolayer-forming molecular species having a first functional group selected to attach to said surface, and a second functional group that is exposed when the species form a monolayer, said second group being polar,
- transferring the molecular species from the stamping surface to a first portion of the article surface, characterized by

- providing on at least a portion of a stamping surface of a stamp a second self-assembled monolayer-forming molecular species having a first functional group selected to attach to said surface, and a second functional group that is exposed when the species form a monolayer, said second group being polar or non-polar,

- transferring the molecular species from the stamping surface to said first portion of the article surface coated with a monolayer of said first molecular species, and

- allowing the second molecular species to spread evenly over the first monolayer to a second portion of the article's surface, characterized in that the spreading is accomplished without immersion in a liquid with the stamp and the article is placed in a reduced pressure atmosphere. ~~a vacuum or in a gaseous atmosphere.~~

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 2, wherein the second functional group of the second self-assembled monolayer-forming molecular species is non-polar.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to any one of claims 1, or 4, wherein the gaseous atmosphere is air.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5, wherein the article' surface is a metal surface and the self-assembled monolayer-forming molecular species is selected from the group consisting of:

- an omega-functionalized thiol having the general formula $R'-A-R''$, wherein R' is $-SH$, A is $-(CHR)_n$ - where R is H or $-CH_3$, and n is an integer from 1 to 30, and R'' is a polar group,

- a disulphide having the general formula $R'''-A-S-S-A'-R''$, wherein R''' is a polar or a non-polar group, A and A' independently are $-(CHR)_n$ where R is H or $-CH_3$, and n is an integer from 1 to 30, and R'' is a polar group, different from or the same as R''' , and

- a thioether having the general formula $R'''-A-S-A''-R''$ or $R'''-A-S-A'-S-A''-R''$, wherein R''' is a polar or a non-polar group, A, A', and A'' independently are $-(CHR)_n$ where R is H or $-CH_3$, and n is an integer from 1 to 30, and R'' is a polar group, being different from or the same as R''' .

7. (Original) A method according to claim 6, wherein the polar group R'' is a functional group selected from the group consisting of $-OH$, $-NCO$, $-NH_2$, $-COOH$, $-NO_2$, $-COH$, $-COCl$, $-PO_4^{2-}$, $-OSO_3^-$, $-SO_3^-$, $-CONH_2$, $-(OCH_2CH_2)_nOH$, $-(OCH_2CH_2)_nOCH_3$, $-PO_3H^-$, $-CN$, $-SH$, $-CH_2I$, $-CH_2Cl$, and $-CH_2Br$, wherein n is an integer from 1 to 100.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) A method of manufacturing an electronic device comprising the steps of providing an article, applying to the surface of such article a self-assembled monolayer by the method of claim 1, wherein such self-assembled monolayer provides a patterned layer on the surface of such article.

11. (Withdrawn)

12. (Withdrawn)

13. (Cancelled)